

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 VIENNA 08254 051208Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SY-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 DRC-01 SR-02 ORM-03 SCA-01

A-01 /159 W

----- 022531

R 051134Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 88

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENNA 8254

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PFOR, AU

SUBJECT: POLITICAL REACTIONS TO TERRORIST ATTACK

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY: SOCIALIST PARTY EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVED KREISKY'S HANDLING OF ARAB TERRORIST INCIDENT. MININTERIOR ANNOUNCES SPEEDIER PROCESSING OF ISRAELI EMIGRANTS. SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT PITTERMANN ALSO SUPPORTED GOA POSITION. PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN SCHLEINZER THROUGHT GOA REACTION TO TERRORIST AFFAIR DISTURBED FOREIGN RELATIONS BUT TOPIC WILL NOT BE USED AS CAMPAIGN ISSUE. END SUMMARY

2. SOCIALIST PARTY (SPOE) EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 4 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF POSITION TAKEN BY GOA WITH REGARD TO ARAB TERRORIST INCIDENT. RESOLUTION STATED IN PART AUSTRIA WILL CONTINUE TO GRANT ASYLUM FOR ANYONE WISHING TO TRANSIT AUSTRIA TO ANOTHER COUNTRY, THEREBY NO CHANGE WILL OCCUR IN AUSTRIA'S HUMANITARIANISM POLICIES.

"NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD THANKS GOA FOR ITS HUMANITARIAN ATTITUDE AND EXPRESSES CERTAINTY THAT ANY ATTEMPTS TO EXERT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 VIENNA 08254 051208Z

PRESSURE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT EMANATES FROM ABROAD OR

DOMESTICALLY, WILL BE FIRMLY REJECTED." PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION, CHANCELLOR KREISKY TOLD EXECUTIVE BOARD THAT IN HIS VIEW NEGATIVE WORLD PRESS REACTION BASED ON MISINFORMATION BECAUSE OUTSIDERS ASSUMED THAT EMIGRANT TRANSIT WOULD BE HALTED WHEREAS, IN FACT, ONLY A CAMP "OF NO SIGNIFICANCE FOR TRANSIT WILL BE CLOSED". CHANCELLOR ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WORLD REACTION " WOULD BECOME BALANCED WHEN ALL FACTS ARE KNOWN". HE FURTHER NOTED THAT AS EARLY AS LAST FEBRUARY SIX TERRORISTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED FOR PLOTTING ATTACK ON SCHOENAU.

3. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT WAS GIVEN BY SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT BRUNO PITTERMANN, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM BRITISH LABOR PARTY CONGRESS. PITTERMANN STATED THAT HE FULLY SUPPORTS POSITION TAKEN BY GOA AND THAT CONTINUATION OF TRANSIT OF SOVIET JEWISH REFUGEES THROUGH AUSTRIA WAS CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN GOA POLICY. AFTER NOTING THAT SI WOULD NOT ISSUE STATEMENT ON TERRORIST INCIDENT, HE NEVERTHELESS INSISTED THAT SI MEMBER PARTIES "HAVE SHOWN COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF OUR COUNTRY'S POSITION".

4. MININTERIOR OTTO RCESCH IN SEPARATE STATEMENT ON OCTOBER 4 DECLARED GOA IS WORKING OUT PROGRAM WHICH WILL MAKE SCHOENAU TRANSIT CAMP NO LONGER NECESSARY. HE EXPLAINED THIS BY NOTING THAT VISA ISSUANCE BY AUSTRIAN EMBASSY MOSCOW AS WELL AS TRAVEL SCHEDULES OUGHT TO BE COORDINATED IN SUCH FASHION THAT JEWISH EMIGRANTS ARRIVING IN VIENNA COULD BE SPEEDILY PROCESSED ONWARD TO ISRAEL.

5. PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN KARL SCHLEINZER REMARKED YESTERDAY THAT GOVERNMENT REACTION OF TERRORIST AFFAIR "PROVOKED DISTURBANCE OF AUSTRIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS." NONETHELESS, SCHLEINZER INDICATED HIS DISPLEASURE WITH CRITICISM EMANATING FROM ABROAD. SIGNIFICANTLY, SCHLEINZER DECLARED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD NOT DRAG TERRORIST INCIDENT INTO CURRENT PROVINCIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS IN VIENNA AND UPPER AUSTRIA. END UNCLASSIFIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 VIENNA 08254 051208Z

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED THAT KREISKY WOULD GET AT LEAST MAJORITY SUPPORT WITHIN HIS OWN PARTY'S EXECUTIVE BOARD, THE UNANIMITY OF THE BOARD REFLECTS DISCIPLINE WITH SPOE. EARLIER THIS WEEK, VIENNA SPOE PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN OTTO PROBST,

WHO IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE AUSTRO-ISRAELI SOCIETY,
TOOK A MORE CRITICAL VIEW, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD
TO SCHOENAU CLOSING. SPOE FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT MP
CZERNETZ STRONGLY CONDEMNED ARAB TERRORISM AT COUNCIL
OF EUROPE STRASBOURG MEETING AND AT LEAST BY IMPLICATION
DISAPPROVED OF GOA'S RELEASE OF TERRORISTS AT COST OF
CEASING FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE OEVP CRITICISM AS
REFLECTED IN SCHLEINZER'S STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY HAS
BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY MODERATED DURING THIS WEEK PROBABLY
REFLECTING OVERWHELMING SUPPORT OF AUSTRIAN PUBLIC
OPINION FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE TERRORIST INCIDENT
WAS HANDLED. DECISION TO KEEP THIS ISSUE OUT OF ELECTION
CAMPAIGN WAS NECESSITATED BY POPULAR SUPPORT OF DECISION
REACHED BY GOVERNING SOCIALISTS. IN THIS CONNECTION,
CHANCELLOR'S AID NOWOTNY JUST INFORMED US THAT MAIL
IS RUNNING "99 PERCENT IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT".
END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.MOWINCKEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENNA08254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731046/aaaabhrn.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <24-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL REACTIONS TO TERRORIST ATTACK BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PFOR, AU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005